

Information Technology Services Division

Missouri .GOV Standard	Document Number: ITGS0002
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1.0 Purpose

This is intended to advise agencies on the new Missouri.GOV standard. An explanation of domain name and domain levels as well as implementation timeframes and implementation instructions are included.

2.0 Scope

The scope of the Missouri.GOV standard includes all executive departments, elected officials, judicial branch, legislative branch and boards and commissions.

3.0 Background

Once reserved for use by federal departments and programs, the .gov domain was expanded in 2002 to include state, county and city government as well as Native Sovereign Nations. Missouri has traditionally used the state.mo.us URL. In spring of 2003 the .us domain was made available to any public entity. The .gov URL will be available only to governmental entities, thus providing a level of confidence to the public of the validity and association with government. Through discussions with the Governor's Office and observance of a general trend by other state governments to move to the .gov URL, a decision was made in November 2002 to migrate the state's portal and department websites to mo.gov.

4.0 References

- 4.1 ITAB Meeting Minutes:
 - October 23, 2002
 - November 20, 2002
 - February 26, 2003
 - March 26, 2003
 - April 30, 2003
 - September 29, 2004

5.0 Revision History

Date	Description of Change
11/20/2002	Initial Standard Published
09/18/2003	Department.GOV URL list Updated
11/21/2003	Department.GOV URL list Updated
06/21/2004	Department.GOV URL list Updated
01/03/2005	Deadline for change extended to June 30, 2005
04/20/2005	Changed approval process

6.0 Definitions

N/A

7.0 Inquiries

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Missouri.GOV Standard

Domain Levels Explained

A domain name is all the text that follows the first period '.' in a host name. A host name is used to locate an entity on the Internet. A host name is part of a Uniform Resource Locator (URL), which is the address of a site or document on the Internet.

First-Level Domain

This would be the ".gov" established by the federal government.

Second-Level Domain

missouri.gov – primary domain

mo.gov – alias domain

Both “**missouri.gov**” and “**mo.gov**” are registered through the Government Domain Registration Services to the Missouri Office of Information Technology (OIT) **Changed to Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) effective July 1, 2005.**

Third-Level Domain

This level will be appropriate for identifying the departments within Missouri State Government. The identification should consist of the department's accepted abbreviation format.

Example: “**dnr.missouri.gov**”

Approval process: It is no longer necessary to request approval from the Office of Information Technology (OIT). Please follow Implementation Procedures listed below.

Fourth-Level Domain

This level will be used at the discretion of the departments for their department-sponsored programs.

Example: “**mostars.dhe.missouri.gov**”

Approval process: To be determined by each department for their internal use.

Implementation Timeframe

The Missouri State Home Page (www.state.mo.us) will change to www.missouri.gov prior to December 31, 2002. Dual URLs will be maintained until December 31, 2003. (Revised 12/4/02: www.state.mo.us URL will be kept indefinitely.) (Revised 9/29/04: www.state.mo.us URL will no longer be kept indefinitely; it will expire July 1, 2005 due to E-mail server consolidation needs. Department requests for third level domain to be submitted to OIT by December 31, 2002.

Department migrations to the new URL to be completed by June 30, 2005.

Implementation Instructions for .GOV URL Standard

.GOV Standard Overview

Both “**missouri.gov**” and “**mo.gov**” are registered through the Government Domain Registration Services to the Missouri Office of Information Technology (OIT) **Changed to Missouri Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) effective July 1, 2004.** This is considered the second level domain.

The third level domain will be appropriate for identifying the departments within Missouri State Government. **A list of .gov URLs is posted on the OIT and DMD websites.** It is no longer necessary for an agency to request approval of OIT for a mo.gov URL. For new requests, please follow implementation instructions procedures listed below.

The fourth level domain will be used at the discretion of the departments for their divisions and department-sponsored programs. Policies and approval processes are to be determined by each department for their internal use.

Existing .com and .org URLs currently used by the departments are to be considered “grand fathered in”. Whenever possible, it is recommended that such URLs be migrated to the .gov standard. **If a department is considering adding additional .com and/or .org URLs, the request will need to be submitted to Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) for CIO approval accompanied by a business case for deviating from the .gov standard.**

Implementation Timeframe

The Missouri State Home Page (www.state.mo.us) now reflects the change to www.missouri.gov as the primary and www.mo.gov as the alias URL. The dual URL of www.state.mo.us will be kept indefinitely.

(Revised 9/29/04: www.state.mo.us URL will no longer be kept indefinitely; it will expire July 1, 2005 due to E-mail server consolidation needs.

Department migrations to the new .gov URL are to be completed by June 30, 2005. Each department will need to determine how long to run dual URLs with their existing “state.mo.us” URLs.

Implementation Procedure

To begin implementing your department’s change to the “**missouri.gov**” and “**mo.gov**” domain, please send your requests for domain name system entries to Office of Administration, Technology Services section. This can be done by submitting a request via the Technology Services cSupport ticket tracking system, sending an e-mail request to helpdesk@mail.state.mo.us or calling the help desk at 751-2201.

URL changes will have far-reaching effects on everyone who accesses your Web site, whether via a bookmark or as a click-through from another site, such as the State Home Portal.

Whenever possible, you should communicate changes to your URL and offer re-direct pages to the people you know have links to your pages. One handy way to tell other state agencies about specific third- and fourth-level domain changes is through the “MO-WEB” discussion list. Subscribers to this list represent the

membership of the Digital Media Developers Group (DMD), a subcommittee of the ITAB. These developers are the Web maintainers, Web masters, and technical gurus who collaborate and discuss matters of common interest.

Are your agency's Web developer's members of the DMD? The DMD meets monthly to share information, view presentations, and help each other on Web issues. For more information about the group and how to sign up for the MO-WEB discussion list, please visit the DMD Web site at:

<http://www.oa.state.mo.us/dmd/>

